



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 8

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DEC 10 2010

David Duster 8ENF-RC  
UTD982590002

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Ref: 8ENF-RC

Mr. Lawrence Snow  
Shivwits Band Council Member & Land Management  
6040 West 3650 North  
Ivins, UT 84738

Re: Transmittal for EPA Inspection  
Report at Hecla - Apex Mine Site.

Dear Mr. Snow:

On October 13, 2010, David Duster, of my staff, conducted a RCRA Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) at the Hecla-Apex Mine Site. The report from this inspection is enclosed.

If you have any questions regarding the content of this report, please contact David Duster at (303) 312-6665.

Sincerely,

Kelcey Land, Director  
RCRA Technical Enforcement Program

cc: David Duster, EPA

U.S. EPA Region 8  
Enforcement Compliance & Environmental Justice Division  
RCRA Compliance Evaluation Report

**Date of Inspection:** October 13, 2010

**Facility Name:** Hecla - Apex Mine

**Location:** Section 5 and Section 8, Township 42 South, Range 17 West, Salt Lake Basin and Meridian, leased from the Shivwits Band of Paiute Indian Tribe

**Mailing Address:** 6500 Mineral Drive, Suite 200  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815-9408

**Facility Contact:** Paul L. Glader  
Manager Environmental Services

**Facility Phone No.:** 208-769-4112

**Email Address:** pglader@hecla-mining.com

**Fax No:** 208-789-4107

**Notification Status:** AOC RCRA-8-99-06

**EPA ID Number:** UTD982589848

**Applicable Regulations:** RCRA Consent Order, Docket No. RCRA-8-99-06

**Type of Inspection:** CEI

**Time of Arrival:** 09:30 hours

**Time of Departure:** 12:30 hours

**Participants:** David Duster, EPA Region 8  
John Krause, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Paul Glader, Hecla  
Doug Gibbs, Monster Engineering  
Doug Thomas, Hecla Contractor  
Lawrence Snow, Shivwits Band Council Member

**Report Prepared By:** David Duster, Environmental Scientist  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8

Says Hecla but  
Identifies OMS  
ID\* within attached  
CEI Report  
OK to File as  
Hecla prod

Hecla – Apex Mine  
St. George, Utah  
Paiute Indian Reservation

**Hecla – Apex Mite**  
**St. George, Utah**  
**Paiute Indian Reservation**  
**UTD982589848**  
**RCRA Compliance Evaluation Inspection**

**Introduction**

On October 13, 2010, I performed a Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) compliance evaluation inspection (CEI) at the Hecla – Apex Mine facility located at Section 5 and Section 8, Township 42 South, Range 17 West, Salt Lake Basin and Meridian near St. George, Utah. The land is leased from the Shivwits Band of Paiute Indian Tribe. Mr. John Krause of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Mr. Lawrence Snow, Shivwits Band Council Member were present for the inspection.

**Facility and Hazardous Waste Management Overview**

On September 8, 2004 EPA and Hecla Mining Company entered into an Administrative Order on Consent requiring Hecla to perform work for final closure of the mine waste at the site. In response, Hecla performed work that entailed consolidating the mine waste, installing surface water controls and installing a synthetic clay cap. The waste management unit has undergone post-closure monitoring for almost five years.

**Enforcement History**

The facility's enforcement history is detailed in the findings of fact section of the administrative order.

**Inspection Narrative**

I arrived at the facility at approximately 09:00 hrs. on October 13, 2010. I met with Mr. Glader, Hecla Environmental Manager and Hecla consultants Mr. Doug Thomas and Mr. Doug Gibbs. Mr. Gibbs described the closure activities to control the mine waste. Mr. Glader also showed me updated subsidence data, collected during the post-closure monitoring period. The subsidence levels were far less than the criteria identified in the closure work plan.

At approximately 10:00 hours representatives from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Paiute Indian Reservation arrived at the site.

Mr. Glader led us on a tour of the site. The cover was slightly vegetated with native species. Mr. Glader stated that it was decided that seeding could be difficult and

**Hecla - Apex Mine  
St. George, Utah  
Paiute Indian Reservation**

ineffectual. During the tour, I did not observe any gullying, significant subsidence or ponding of water. The security fence was intact. The diversion canal was free of debris.

Mr. Glader told representatives of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Paiute Reservation that he intended to continue post-closure monitoring inspections after the EPA order had been closed. Mr. John Krause of Bureau of Indian Affairs indicated that he may contract with a geotechnical engineer to verify that the unit is closed sufficiently. I told Mr. Glader that once the five-year post-closure monitoring period has expired he could submit to me a request to close the administrative order. I told Mr. Krause that I would consult with Bureau of Indian Affairs before any actions to terminate the order occur.

**Areas of Concern**

1. No areas of concern, potential RCRA violations or violations of the terms of the order were identified during this inspection.

Prepared by:

David Duster

10/27/2010

David Duster, RCRA Inspector  
U.S. EPA Region VIII  
RCRA Technical Enforcement Program

Date